(c) if not, the time by when land will be acquired and work on the project will start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Honourable Prime Minister has announced a programme to widen national highways to six lane linking Kashmir to Kanyakumari and Silchar to Saurashtra. A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has been constituted to decide the routes and technical parameters thereof. The programme is at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given at the stage.

द्रुतगामी राजमार्गो का निर्माण

285.**श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे**: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1996 तक द्रुतगामी राजमार्गो के निर्माण के लिए किन-किन राज्यों की पहचान की गई थी और देश में ऐसे राजमार्गो की संख्या कितनी है जिनका निर्माण किया जाना हैं;

(ख) क्या द्रुतगामी राजमार्गो के निर्माण के लिए निधियां स्वीकृत की गई हैं और इसमें राज्य सरकार का हिस्सा कितने प्रतिशत हैं;

(ग) उक्त अवधि के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के किन-किन जिलों में द्रुतगामी राजमार्गो के निर्माण का कार्य शुरू किया गया है और इसकी प्रति किलोमीटर लागत क्या है;और

(घ) स्वीकृत द्रुतगामी राजमार्गो के निर्माण और इस संबंध में अब तक उपलब्धियों का अद्यतन ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा.देवेन्द्र प्रधान): (क) इस मंत्रालय ने गुजरात में अहमदाबाद-बदोदरा एक्सप्रैस मार्ग के अतिरिक्त किसी एक्सप्रैस राजमार्ग के लिए अनुमोदन प्रदान नहीं किया।

(ख) से (घ) गुजरात के अतिरिक्त किसी अन्य राज्य के लिए प्रश्न नहीं उठता। अहमदाबाद-बदोदरा एक्सप्रैसमार्ग के लिए 137 करोड़ रू.स्वीकृत किए गए है। यह कार्य भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण द्वार अब निष्पादित किया जा रहा है।

National Highways Patrolling Scheme

286. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being spent by the Government towards National Highway Patrolling Scheme and road safety programmes during the last five years;

(b) the rate of accident victims and deaths on Indian roads during the last five years;

(c) the details of economic loss as a result of accidents including damage to the property; and

(d) the details of the schemes undertaken by Government to prevent the death of persons and economic loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Rs. 22.28 crores.

(b) Years	Persons injured per thousand accidents	Persons lulled per thousand accidents
1993	1037.24	218.00
1994	988.67	202.76
1995	925.85	203.76
1996	1010.94	231.71
1997	913.65	230.15

(c) Economic loss suffered as a result of accidents including damage to the property can not be assessed as the same depends on various factors, namely loss to human life, injuries, damage to vehicles, roads and other properties, compensation awarded by tribunals' courts, etc.

(d) (the details are enclosed in the statement.

Statement

1. Publicity Measures:

Public awareness campaign is being carried out through Directorate of Audio & Visual Publicity (DAVP) viz. Printing of calendars with road safety messages, display of cinema slides, broadcasting of radio jingles. Telecasting of video spots relating to road safety, organisation of All India Essay Competition, organisation of Road Safety Weeks through out the country, printing of road safety posters, games and other publicity material.

2. Grants-in-aid:

Grants-in-aid is being provided to various Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for undertaking road safety educational programmes throughout the country.

3. National Highway Patrolling Scheme:

A National Highway Patrolling Scheme is in operation since 1993-94 under which the State Governments are provided financial assistance for the procurement of crane and ambulance for removing broken down vehicles and providing immediate relief to accident victims on National Highways.

4. Training of Drivers in un-organised sectors:

A scheme to provide refresher training to heavy motor vehicle drivers in the un-organised sector through specialised agencies'institutions has been started from 1998-99.

Development of National Highways in Orissa

287. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have earmarked funds for the development of National Highways during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for each National Highway for the above financial year;

(c) the total kilometre of National Highways in Orissa which would be developed in the above financial year; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Funds are allocated on lump-sum basis to the States and not National Highway-wise. During 1998-99 Central Government have earmarked a sum of Rs. 1678.30 crores for the development of National Highways.

(c) and (d) During 1998-99 following works are targetted to be developed:

(i)	Widening single lane road to 2 lane road	: 38 Km
(ii)	Strengthening existing 2 lane road	: 46 Km
(iii)	Widening existing 2 lane road to 4 lane	: 3 Km
(iv)	Construction of bridges	: 7 Nos.
(v)	2 lane additional carriageway Bhubanseshwar-Cuttack section (under Externally Aided Project)	: 10 Km

Development of National Highway No. 23

288. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT he pleased to state:

(a) the total number of accidents occurred during the current year from 'January '98 to 30th November '98 on the National Highway No. 23 running from Banarpal to Ranchi via-Rourkela, Simdega-Khunti;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to improve the Highway and whether Government have proposal to make it four lane Highway;